

THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS.

TWENTIETH DAY.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 26, 1861.
Congress met to-day at noon, and prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mitchell.

Minutes of yesterday read and affirmed.

Mr. Sims, of Ala., presented a communication from a citizen of his State in reference to a flag. The communication was accompanied with the design of a flag. Referred.

A gentleman presented two letters enclosing designs for flags. Referred.

Mr. Hill, of Ga.—During my absence from the Congress a lady of great taste and genius, residing in the city of La Grange, sent me a model for a flag for the new confederacy, which I request may be referred to the Committee on Flags. I desire to say a word or two in reference to this flag, because the letter which accompanied it has been mislaid. I will simply remark that the flag combines three primary ideas of what a flag should be.—First, in its simplicity—it is made very easily; second, its originality—there is no flag, I believe, of any nation even approaching it in elegance; and third, its expressiveness—I will simply say that there is not a figure or design of that flag that does not in itself represent some fundamental idea in the history, the character, and, I suppose, the destiny of this confederacy, and in its combined effect it represents the character and destiny of the republic. I move, sir, that it be referred to the Committee on the Flag, and hope that the late hour at which it is presented will not prevent its receiving a respectful consideration from that committee.

The flag was referred.

Mr. Nisam, of Ga.—I hold in my hand, Mr. President, a memorial from the Chamber of Commerce in the city of Macon, the place of my residence, which I beg leave to offer to the consideration of the Committee on Commerce. I desire, before presenting it, to make a few remarks as to its object. It is known to some of you that there was held during the past year a fair in the city of Macon, which was numerously attended.

It was the cotton planters' fair. Its object was to invite the co-operation of foreign capitalists in the business of inaugurating direct trade with the nations of Europe. It was only partially successful, on account of some disasters, against which the committee having the fair in charge could not provide. These memorials, in endeavoring to carry out the objects of the fair, ask that the city of Macon be made a port of entry and delivery. There are some advantages in making it such. For example, it occupies, geographically, the centre of the State of Georgia, which our sister States have been pleased to term "the Empire of the South." It is near the border of the cotton growing region of the state; contains a population of eight thousand, among whom there are men of enterprise and wealth, and many more than five thousand negroes.

Savannah, New Orleans, and on the account have prevented the accumulation in these cities of import and export, to which we should greatly owe the revenue of the fair.

Feb. 8.—All proceedings for offices commanding against the 26th instant were commenced within five years from the time the same were committed or occurred, or from the time the cause of action accrued.

No. 26.—No transaction, to this instant, purchased with or without notice, or for value given, shall interfere with the right of the owner to sue for damages for the person whom the negro was purchased, but shall be compelled to pay such damages to the person having such negro in possession as shall be compelled to pay such damages to the person whom the negro was purchased.

The 5's of 1874, which sold yesterday at 84%, were offered to day at 87. The new 6's of 1881 fell to 92% for the coupon bonds. Railroad bonds were comparatively steady. Illinois Central 7's even advanced to 98.

The market closed with more steadiness at about the following quotations: United States 5's (1874), 85% to 87; Indiana 5's, 82% to 85; Virginia 6's, 65%; 66; Canton Company, 14% to 15%; Cumberland Coal preferred, 6% to 7; Pacific Mail Steamship, 85% to 88%; New York Central, 78% to 78½; Erie, 32% to 32½; Hudson River, 45% to 45½; Harlem, 15% to 15½; do, preferred, 39% to 40; Reading, 45% to 45%; Michigan Central, 58 to 58½; Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana, 14% to 14½; do, guaranteed, 35% to 36; Panama, 11½%; 16; Illinois Central, 51% to 51%; Galena and Chicago, 72 to 72½; Cleveland and Toledo, 35% to 36; Chicago and Rock Island, 68 to 68½; Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, 73% to 74; Illinois Central bonds (7's), 97 to 98.

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An act to amend the Navigation Laws and repeal all existing laws on the subject.

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An act to establish the slave trade, and to punish persons engaged in it.

An act to establish and organize a general staff for the army of the Confederate States of America.

An act to authorize the secretary of the treasury to establish a mint, and places of entry and delivery, and appoint officers thereto.

The President called up the regular business on the calendar, which was the bill to regulate the public prints.

Mr. T. R. G. COOKE, of Ga., moved two slight amendments to the bill, which increases the pay of the public printer. One was increasing the pay for binding, stitching, &c., from four to six dollars per page, and the other increasing the compensation from \$1 to \$1.75 per page. Mr. COOKE said he was satisfied that the increase was not too much.

Mr. WILSON.—With the most respect, the gentleman who has introduced a resolution has not even passed the bill through the Senate, and I am sure it will not pass.

Mr. COOKE.—That is true.

Mr. WILSON.—That being so, I will withdraw the motion, and let the bill remain as it stands.

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